(a) whether Government proposes to set up a University for PIOs;

(b) the rationale for such an institution when the scholarships programmes and reserved seats in higher education institutions are already available to the diaspora children;

(c) whether Government is considering expanding the existing schemes; and

(d) if so, whether Government has taken a final decision on the issue?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The task of setting up the first PIO/NRI university at Bangaluru has been entrusted to the Manipal Academy of Higher Education Trust (MAHET).

Expressions of Interest for setting up four more universities at places other than Bangaluru have been invited.

(b) Though provision for supernumerary seats in higher educational institutions except those imparting medical education, have been by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), these are for all foreigners including PIOs. Higher educational institutions of excellence, *e.g.* IITs, IIMs, which are the institutions sought after by PIOs, do not have capacity to enroll PIO students.

The proposed NRI/PIO University would be at par with the best universities in the world in terms of the standard of education and would cater to the needs of the diaspora children.

There is no scholarship scheme available exclusively for the PIO students.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Bipartite Agreement with UAE

3568. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY :
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN :

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of bipartite agreement signed between India and UAE on protection of Indian Emigrants working in UAE?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the field of manpower was signed between the Government of India and UAE on 13th December, 2006. The bipartite MoU provides for the following :-

(i) Declaration of mutual intent to enhance employment opportunities and for bilateral cooperation in protection and welfare of workers.

(ii) The host Country to take measures for protection and welfare of the workers in organized sector.

(iii) Statement of the broad procedure that the foreign employer shall follow to recruit Indian workers.

(iv) The recruitment and terms of employment to be in conformity of the laws of both the Countries.

(v) A Joint Working Group (JWG) to ensure implementation of the MoU and to meet regularly to find solutions to bilateral labour problems.

Complaints of Unscrupulous Agencies

3569. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN :
SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY :

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints Government has received against unscrupulous agencies who recruited emigrant Indian workers during the last five years; and

(b) the actions Government has taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) and (b) During the last five years, the number of complaints against unregistered/unauthorized RAs are as under :-

Year	No. of Complaints	Prosecution Sanction issued	Cases referred to State Government/POE for action
2005	53	8	45
2006	78	21	57
2007	40	7	33
2008	93	56	37
2009 (upto June)	63	09	54

These complaints mainly pertain to cheating, overcharging, contractual violations by employers such as non-payment/delayed payment of salary, non-availability of medical facilities and proper food, unhygienic living conditions etc. Such harassment include withholding of passports and even physical abuse by the employers.

Any recruitment of Indian nationals for employment abroad without Registration Certificate under Section 10 of the Emigration Act, 1983 is an offence punishable under Section 24 of the Emigration Act, 1983. Since such agents are not registered with Protector General of Emigrants (PGE), Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, the complaints are referred to concerned State Police authorities for investigation.

Complaints against registered recruiting agents are enquired into by the PGE and, if substantiated, the registration of the RA is cancelled.

Incidents of discrimination on Indians abroad

3570. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of incidents of discrimination, misbehaviour and attacks against Indians abroad;